

1 APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

2 ON INVENTION FOR:

3 HOLSTER FOR ATTACHING TO A LED OF A USER AND HOLDING A
4 HAMMER

5 BY INVENTOR: Victor M. Marinelli

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7 Agt. Doc. No.: MARV14A

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15 TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

16 BE IT KNOWN that I, Victor M. Marinelli, a citizen
17 of THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and resident of: Raynham, MA
18 02767 have invented certain new and useful improvements in
19 a(n): HOLSTER FOR ATTACHING TO A LED OF A USER AND HOLDING A
20 HAMMER of which the following is a full, clear, concise and
21 exact description:

1 Inventor: Victor M. Marinelli
2 Invention: HOLSTER FOR ATTACHING TO A LEG OF A USER AND HOLDING A
3 HAMMER
4 DOC. No.: MARV14A

5 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

6 Field of the Invention:

7 The present invention relates to a holster for holding a hammer.
8 More particularly, the present invention relates to a holster for
9 attaching to a leg of a user and holding a hammer.

10 Description of the Prior Art:

11 Numerous innovations for hammer holsters have been provided in the
12 prior art that will be described. Even though these innovations may be
13 suitable for the specific individual purposes to which they address,
14 however, they differ from the present invention.

15 A FIRST EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 2,618,419 to Vanish teaches a tool
16 holster comprising a clasp member adapted to be detachably secured to the
17 clothing of a wearer, and a coiled wire spring loop member mounted on said
18 clasp member and resiliently standing in an approximately horizontal plane
19 when free of a tool, and occupying a downwardly and inwardly bent position
20 when a tool is positioned therein with its handle extending through the
21 loop of the loop member, the outer edge of the loop member when holding
22 a tool being considerably lower than said horizontal position and the
23 resiliency of said coiled wire causing the outer depressed end of the loop
24 member to grip inwardly against the tool and cause the tool to be held
25 close to the wearer's body, the clasp member including a pair of
26 integrally connected outer and inner flat members resiliently urged toward
27 each other, the outer member having a band pressed outwardly therefrom and
28 integral with the outer member at both ends, the mounting of the loop

1 member on the clasp member including an end portion at each end of the
2 loop portion extending downwardly at approximately right angles to the
3 main body of the loop member when free of a tool, said end portions being
4 tightly gripped between said band and said outer flat member with said end
5 portions substantially in contact with each other sidewise.

6 A SECOND EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 2,852,824 to Kilpatrick teaches
7 a holder for a hammer of the type including a head and a reduced diameter
8 shank, a body member including a back wall, a front wall, a bottom wall,
9 first and second spaced parallel side walls, there being an arcuate recess
10 in said body member defining a chamber for receiving the hammer head, said
11 first side wall being provided with an arcuate cutout for the projection
12 therethrough of said shank, said cutout being of smaller size than said
13 recess whereby said head abuts the inner surface of said first side wall
14 to prevent accidental displacement of the head out of said chamber, a
15 spring member having one end secured to said first side wall, a bar having
16 one end secured to said spring member, there being a slot in said second
17 side wall, the outer end of said bar being of reduced size and projecting
18 through said slot and out beyond said second wall, an L-shaped keeper
19 including a leg pivotally connected to said second side wall, an arm
20 arranged at right angles with respect to said leg and extending therefrom,
21 a pivot pin extending through said leg and through said second side wall,
22 and a spring member having one end connected to said keeper and its other
23 end connected to said pivot pin, there being a pair of cutouts in said leg
24 defining a pair of teeth for engaging the outer end of said bar.

25 A THIRD EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 3,100,590 to Bohlsen teaches a
26 hammer holster for carrying a hammer with its handle in an upstanding
27 position with relation to the head thereof, said holster comprising a
28 generally vertically disposed back plate having front and rear faces, an
29 upwardly opening elongated pocket secured to the front face of the lower
30 portion of said back plate, said pocket being of a length generally
31 approximating the length of said hammer head and adapted to receive the
32 head of said hammer so that the handle thereof is disposed adjacent said

1 back plate, hammer head retaining means at one end of said pocket adapted
2 to retain one end of said hammer head and limiting upward movement
3 thereof, and hammer handle retaining means connected to said back plate
4 and adapted to limit transverse movement of said hammer handle when said
5 hammer head is received within said pocket, said hammer handle retaining
6 means comprising a lug secured to said backing plate and mounted for
7 pivotal movements into and out of engagement with the hammer handle when
8 the hammer is carried by said holster.

9 A FOURTH EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 3,384,277 to Hodelka teaches a
10 holster for supporting a hammer, handle upward, from the rear pocket of
11 a workman's trousers. A sheath which receives the head of the hammer is
12 affixed to the lower end of a rigid backing plate. A spring steel, handle
13 retaining clip is attached to the backing plate above the sheath. A
14 second rigid plate, which is inserted into the rear pocket, is attached
15 to the upper edge of the backing plate.

16 A FIFTH EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 5,992,716 to Riley teaches a
17 releasable device for holding a tool in a holder, the tool for example
18 being a hammer held in a hammer holder commonly used in the construction
19 industry and having a loop loosely holding the hammer. The device is of
20 flexible, stretchable material and has an aperture which may be pulled
21 over a portion of the tool such as the hammer head to hold the tool to the
22 holder. The device is secure to the loop of the hammer holder.
23 Preferably, the device is a strip of flexible stretched material with an
24 aperture and a series of holes and slits which permit the strap to be able
25 to be looped around the hammer holder loop. The loop is releasably
26 secured to a portion of the tool such as the head of the hammer.

27 A SIXTH EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 6,557,739 B1 to Pursley et al.
28 teaches a device for securing a T-shaped tool such as a hammer to the leg
29 of a user in a position which provides complete freedom of movement of
30 hands and feet while carrying the tool and permits the user to remove the
31 tool from the device with the same hand employed to use the tool.

1 It is apparent that numerous innovations for hammer holsters have
2 been provided in the prior art that are adapted to be used. Furthermore,
3 even though these innovations may be suitable for the specific individual
4 purposes to which they address, however, they would not be suitable for
5 the purposes of the present invention as heretofore described.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

2 ACCORDINGLY, AN OBJECT of the present invention is to provide a
3 holster for attaching to a leg of a user and holding a hammer that avoids
4 the disadvantages of the prior art.

5 ANOTHER OBJECT of the present invention is to provide a holster for
6 attaching to a leg of a user and holding a hammer that is simple to use.

7 BRIEFLY STATED, STILL ANOTHER OBJECT of the present invention is to
8 provide a holster for attaching to an leg of a user and holding a hammer
9 in a position which provides complete freedom of movement of hands and
10 feet of the user and which permits the user to remove the hammer with the
11 same hand employed to use the hammer. The holster is made from a rod-
12 like, slender, and elongated material, and includes an attaching portion
13 attaching to the leg of a user and a holding portion extending from the
14 attaching portion and cradling the head of the hammer therein, with the
15 handle of the hammer extending upwardly therefrom, with the claw of the
16 hammer extending replaceably through one side of the holding portion, and
17 with the bell/poll of the hammer extending replaceably through the other
18 side of the holding portion.

19 The novel features which are considered characteristic of the
20 present invention are set forth in the appended claims. The invention
21 itself, however, both as to its construction and its method of operation,
22 together with additional objects and advantages thereof, will be best
23 understood from the following description of the specific embodiments when
24 read and understood in connection with the accompanying drawing.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

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The figures of the drawing are briefly described as follows:

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FIGURE 1 is a diagrammatic perspective view of the present invention attached to the leg of a user and holding a hammer;

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FIGURE 2 is an enlarged diagrammatic perspective view of the area generally enclosed by the dotted curve identified by ARROW 2 in FIGURE 1 of the present invention holding the hammer; and

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FIGURE 3 is a diagrammatic side elevational view taken generally in the direction of ARROW 3 in FIGURE 2.

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LIST OF REFERENCE NUMERALS UTILIZED IN THE DRAWING

2 10 holster of present invention for attaching to leg 12 of user 14
3 and holding hammer 16
4 12 leg of user 14
5 14 user
6 16 hammer
7 17 handle of hammer 16
8 18 attaching portion for replaceably attaching to leg 12 of user 14
9 19 head of hammer 16.
10 20 holding portion for replaceably holding hammer 16 in position
11 which provides complete freedom of movement of hands and feet of
12 user 14 and which permits user 14 to remove hammer 16 with same
13 hand employed to use hammer 16
14 21 claw of hammer 16
15 22 pair of extension members of attaching portion 18
16 23 bell/poll of hammer 16
17 24 lowermost end of each extension member of pair of extension
18 members 22 of attaching portion 18
19 25 cheek of hammer 16
20 26 uppermost end of each extension member of pair of extension
21 members 22 of attaching portion 18
22 28 upper portion of each extension member of pair of extension
23 members 22 of attaching portion 18
24 30 intermediate portion of each extension member of pair of
25 extension members 22 of attaching portion 18
26 32 lower portion of each extension member of pair of extension
27 members 22 of attaching portion 18
28 34 first transition point of each extension member of pair of
29 extension members 22 of attaching portion 18
30 36 second transition point of each extension member of pair of
31 extension members 22 of attaching portion 18

1 38 upper loop of each extension member of pair of extension members
2 22 of attaching portion 18 for receiving upper strap 42 for
3 strapping around leg 12 of user 14
4 40 lower loop of each extension member of pair of extension members
5 22 of attaching portion 18 for receiving lower strap 44 for
6 strapping around leg 12 of user 14
7 42 upper strap for strapping around leg 12 of user 14
8 43 upper member of upper loop 38 of each extension member of pair of
9 extension members 22 of attaching portion 18
10 44 lower strap for strapping around leg 12 of user 14
11 45 lower member of lower loop 40 of each extension member of pair of
12 extension members 22 of attaching portion 18
13 46 cross member of attaching portion 18
14 48 pair of segment members of holding portion 20 for holding head 19
15 of hammer 16
16 50 forwardmost end of each segment member of pair of segment members
17 48 of holding portion 20
18 52 rear portion of each segment member of pair of segment members 48
19 of holding portion 20
20 54 lower portion of each segment member of pair of segment members
21 48 of holding portion 20
22 56 forward portion of each segment member of pair of segment members
23 48 of holding portion 20
24 58 first transition point of each segment member of pair of segment
25 members 48 of holding portion 20
26 60 second transition point of each segment member of pair of segment
27 members 48 of holding portion 20
28 62 connecting member of holding portion 20
29 64 cradle of holding portion 20 for replaceably cradling head 19 of
30 hammer 16 therein, with handle 17 of hammer 16 extending upwardly
31 therefrom, with claw 21 of hammer 16 extending replaceably
32 through one segment member of pair of segment members 48 of

- 1 holding portion 20, and with bell/poll 23 of hammer 16 extending
- 2 replaceably through other segment member of pair of segment
- 3 members 48 of holding portion 20
- 4 65 cross member of holding portion 20 for abutting against cheek 25
- 5 of head 19 of hammer 16 and urging head 19 of hammer 16 against
- 6 rear portion 52 of each segment member of pair of segment members
- 7 48 of holding portion 20 so as to replaceably maintain head 19 of
- 8 hammer 16 in cradle 64 of holding portion 20
- 9 66 catch of holding member 20 for replaceably capturing handle 17 of
- 10 hammer 16 therein

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

2 Referring now to the figures, in which like numerals indicate like
3 parts, and particularly to figure 1, the holster of the present invention
4 is shown generally at 10 for attaching to an leg 12 of a user 14 and
5 holding a hammer 16. The hammer 16 has a handle 17 and a head 19. The
6 head 19 of the hammer 16 extends transversely from the handle 17 of the
7 hammer 16 so as to form a general T-shape, and has a claw 21, a bell/poll
8 23, and a cheek 25.

9 The specific configuration of the holster 10 can best be seen in
10 FIGURES 2 and 3, and as such, will be discussed with reference thereto.

11 The holster 10 comprises an attaching portion 18 and a holding
12 portion 20. The attaching portion 18 is for replaceably attaching to the
13 leg 12 of the user 14, and the holding portion 20 extends from the
14 attaching portion 18 and is for replaceably holding the hammer 16 in a
15 position which provides complete freedom of movement of hands and feet of
16 the user 14 and which permits the user 14 to remove the hammer 16 with the
17 same hand employed to use the hammer 16.

18 The attaching portion 18 comprises a pair of extension members 22.
19 The pair of extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 are mirror
20 images of each other, are vertically-oriented, are spaced-apart from each
21 other, and lie in the same plane. Each extension member of the pair of
22 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is rod-like, i.e.,
23 slender and elongated.

24 Each extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the
25 attaching portion 18 has a lowermost end 24, an uppermost end 26, an upper
26 portion 28, an intermediate portion 30, and a lower portion 32.

27 The upper portion 28 of each extension member of the pair of
28 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 depends from the
29 uppermost end 26 of an associated extension member of the pair of
30 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 to a first transition
31 point 34.

1 The upper portion 28 of each extension member of the pair of
2 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is straight and parallel
3 to the other.

4 The intermediate portion 30 of each extension member of the pair of
5 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 depends sidewardly
6 outwardly from the first transition point 34 of the upper portion 28 of
7 an associated extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the
8 attaching portion 18 to a second transition point 36.

9 The intermediate portion 30 of each extension member of the pair of
10 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is continuous with the
11 upper portion 28 of an associated extension member of the pair of
12 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 so as to allow the
13 intermediate portion 30 of each extension member of the pair of extension
14 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 to be one-piece with the upper
15 portion 28 of the associated extension member of the pair of extension
16 members 22 of the attaching portion 18.

17 The intermediate portion 30 of each extension member of the pair of
18 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is straight.

19 The lower portion 32 of each extension member of the pair of
20 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 depends from the second
21 transition point 36 of the intermediate portion 30 of an associated
22 extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the attaching
23 portion 18 to the lowermost end 24 of the associated extension member of
24 the pair of extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18.

25 The lower portion 32 of each extension member of the pair of
26 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is continuous with the
27 intermediate portion 30 of an associated extension member of the pair of
28 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 so as to allow the lower
29 portion 32 of each extension member of the pair of extension members 22
30 of the attaching portion 18 to be one-piece with the intermediate portion
31 30 of the associated extension member of the pair of extension members 22
32 of the attaching portion 18.

1 The lower portion 32 of each extension member of the pair of
2 extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is straight, parallel to
3 the other, and outboard of, and parallel to, the upper portion 28 of an
4 associated extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the
5 attaching portion 18.

6 Each extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the
7 attaching portion 18 further has an upper loop 38 and a lower loop 40.

8 The upper loop 38 of each extension member of the pair of extension
9 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is disposed at the uppermost end
10 26 of an associated extension member of the pair of extension members 22
11 of the attaching portion 18, extends forwardly therefrom, away from the
12 leg 12 of the user 14 for comfort, and is for receiving an upper strap 42
13 for strapping around the leg 12 of the user 14.

14 The upper loop 38 of each extension member of the pair of extension
15 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is identical to the other,
16 vertically-oriented, spaced-apart from the other, parallel to the other,
17 and aligned with the other.

18 The upper loop 38 of each extension member of the pair of extension
19 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is formed by an upper member 43
20 welded to the uppermost end 26 of an associated extension member of the
21 pair of extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18. It is to be
22 noted that the instant invention may be readily fabricated from either
23 metal or plastic and the use of the word welded is general and is not
24 meant to imply necessarily that the invention would be best fabricated out
25 of a particular material.

26 The upper member 43 of the upper loop 38 of each extension member
27 of the pair of extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is
28 arcuate-shaped, vertically-oriented, spaced-apart from the other, and
29 parallel to the other.

30 The lower loop 40 of each extension member of the pair of extension
31 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is disposed at the lowermost end
32 24 of an associated extension member of the pair of extension members 22

1 of the attaching portion 18, extends rearwardly therefrom, towards the leg
2 12 of the user 14 for spacing to compensate for the depending taper of the
3 leg 12 of the user 14, and is for receiving a lower strap 44 for strapping
4 around the leg 12 of the user 14.

5 The lower loop 40 of each extension member of the pair of extension
6 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is identical to the other,
7 vertically-oriented, spaced-apart from the other, parallel to the other,
8 and aligned with the other.

9 The lower loop 40 of each extension member of the pair of extension
10 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is formed by a lower member 45
11 welded to the lowermost end 24 of an associated extension member of the
12 pair of extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18.

13 The lower loop 40 of each extension member of the pair of extension
14 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is generally square-shaped,
15 vertically-oriented, spaced-apart from the other, and parallel to the
16 other.

17 The lower loop 40 of each extension member of the pair of extension
18 members 22 of the attaching portion 18 is wider than the upper loop 38 of
19 an associated extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the
20 attaching portion 18.

21 The attaching portion 18 further comprises a cross member 46. The
22 cross member 46 of the attaching portion 18 extends from the lower loop
23 40 of one extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the
24 attaching portion 18 to the lower loop 40 of the other extension member
25 of the pair of extension members 22 of the attaching portion 18. The
26 cross member 46 of the attaching portion 18 is rod-like, i.e., slender and
27 elongated, and arcs for conforming to the leg 12 of the user 14.

28 The holding portion 20 comprises a pair of segment members 48 for
29 holding the head 19 of the hammer 16. The pair of segment members 48 of
30 the holding portion 20 are mirror images of each other, are vertically-
31 oriented, and are spaced-apart from each other. Each segment member of

1 the pair of segment members 48 of the holding portion 20 is rod-like,
2 i.e., slender and elongated.

3 Each segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of the holding
4 portion 20 has a forwardmost end 50, a rear portion 52, a lower portion
5 54, and a forward portion 56.

6 The rear portion 52 of each segment member of the pair of segment
7 members 48 of the holding portion 20 depends forwardly from the lowermost
8 end 24 of an associated extension member of the pair of extension members
9 22 of the attaching portion 18 to a first transition point 58.

10 The rear portion 52 of each segment member of the pair of segment
11 members 48 of the holding portion 20 is straight and parallel to the
12 other.

13 The lower portion 54 of each segment member of the pair of segment
14 members 48 of the holding portion 20 extends forwardly, upwardly, and
15 inwardly from the first transition point 58 of the rear portion 52 of an
16 associated segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of the holding
17 portion 20 to a second transition point 60.

18 The lower portion 54 of each segment member of the pair of segment
19 members 48 of the holding portion 20 is continuous with the rear portion
20 52 of an associated segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of
21 the holding portion 20 so as to allow the lower portion 54 of each segment
22 member of the pair of segment members 48 of the holding portion 20 to be
23 one-piece with the rear portion 52 of the associated segment member of the
24 pair of segment members 48 of the holding portion 20.

25 The lower portion 54 of each member of the pair of segment members
26 48 of the holding portion 20 is straight and converges towards the other.

27 The forward portion 56 of each segment member of the pair of segment
28 members 48 of the holding portion 20 extends upwardly and inwardly from
29 the second transition point 60 of the lower portion 54 of an associated
30 segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of the holding portion
31 20 to the forwardmost end 50 of the associated segment member of the pair
32 of segment members 48 of the holding portion 20.

1 The forward portion 56 of each segment member of the pair of segment
2 members 48 of the holding portion 20 is continuous with the lower portion
3 54 of an associated segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of
4 the holding portion 20 so as to allow the forward portion 56 of each
5 segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of the holding portion
6 20 to be one-piece with the lower portion 54 of the associated segment
7 member of the pair of segment members 48 of the holding portion 20.

8 The forward portion 56 of each segment member of the pair of segment
9 members 48 of the holding portion 20 is straight, converges towards the
10 other, and is inboard of, and lies in a general parallel plane to, the
11 rear portion 52 of an associated segment member of the pair of segment
12 members 48 of the holding portion 20.

13 The holding portion 20 further comprises a connecting member 62.
14 The connecting member 62 of the holding portion 20 extends from the
15 forwardmost end 50 of one segment member of the pair of segment members
16 48 of the holding portion 20 to the forwardmost end 50 of the other
17 segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of the holding portion
18 20, and extends forwardly therefrom.

19 The connecting member 62 of the holding portion is continuous with
20 the forward portion 54 of each segment member of the pair of segment
21 members 48 of the holding portion 20 so as to allow the connecting member
22 62 of the holding portion to be one-piece with the forward portion 54 of
23 an associated segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of the
24 holding portion 20.

25 The connecting member 62 of the holding portion 20 is inverted U-
26 shaped.

27 The pair of segment members 48 of the holding portion 20 and the
28 connecting member 62 of the holding portion 20 form a cradle 64. The
29 cradle 64 of the holding portion 20 is for replaceably cradling the head
30 19 of the hammer 16 therein, with the handle 17 of the hammer 16 extending
31 upwardly therefrom, with the claw 21 of the hammer 16 extending
32 replaceably through one segment member of the pair of segment members 48

1 of the holding portion 20, and with the bell/poll 23 of the hammer 16
2 extending replaceably through the other segment member of the pair of
3 segment members 48 of the holding portion 20.

4 The holding portion 20 further comprises a cross member 65. The
5 cross member 65 of the holding portion 20 extends horizontally from, and
6 is welded to, the forwardmost end 50 of one segment member of the pair of
7 segment members 48 of the holding portion 20 to, and is welded to, the
8 forwardmost end 50 of the other segment member of the pair of segment
9 members 48 of the holding portion 20.

10 The cross member 65 of the holding portion 20 is flat and elongated,
11 and is for abutting against the cheek 25 of the head 19 of the hammer 16
12 and urging the head 19 of the hammer 16 against the rear portion 52 of
13 each segment member of the pair of segment members 48 of the holding
14 portion 20 so as to replaceably maintain the head 19 of the hammer 16 in
15 the cradle 64 of the holding portion 20.

16 The holding member 20 further comprises catch 66. The catch 66 of
17 the holding member 20 is generally U-shaped, extends forwardly from the
18 upper portion 28 of each extension member of the pair of extension members
19 22 of the attaching portion 18, just below the upper loop 38 of each
20 extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the attaching
21 portion 18, and is for replaceably capturing the handle 17 of the hammer
22 16 therein.

23 The catch 66 of the holding member 20 is welded on the upper portion
24 28 of each extension member of the pair of extension members 22 of the
25 attaching portion 18.

26 It will be understood that each of the elements described above, or
27 two or more together, may also find a useful application in other types
28 of constructions differing from the types described above.

29 While the invention has been illustrated and described as embodied
30 in a holster for attaching to a leg of a user and holding a hammer,
31 however, it is not limited to the details shown, since it will be
32 understood that various omissions, modifications, substitutions and

1 changes in the forms and details of the device illustrated and its
2 operation can be made by those skilled in the art without departing in any
3 way from the spirit of the present invention.

4 Without further analysis, the foregoing will so fully reveal the
5 gist of the present invention that others can, by applying current
6 knowledge, readily adapt it for various applications without omitting
7 features that, from the standpoint of prior art, fairly constitute
8 characteristics of the generic or specific aspects of this invention.